

First Things First

The right system for bright futures



Building Bright Futures: Statewide Needs and Assets Report

- Completed in December 2007 and presented to governor and legislature
- Statutory requirement – ***biennially*** (error in statute wording states biannually)
- Incorporated both indicators of child and family well-being (poverty levels; educational attainment; etc) and;
- Incorporated data related to specific goal areas of statute (quality ECE settings; accessibility of services; etc.)

Building Bright Futures: Key Components of Report

- **Child and Family Indicators** - information about well-being that we:
 1. want to affect; and
 2. affect our ability to effectuate change

- **Picture of current system**
 1. Overview
 2. Arizona's Status
 3. State Assets
 4. ***What's Missing***
 5. Opportunities for Change

Building Bright Futures: Key Components of Report

- **Opportunities for Change Overview**

- May find generic
- Avoided specific strategies purposefully
- Strategic Planning had not yet occurred

- **Report Development**

- Data sources: Literature search; Data search (census; Head Start reports; national databanks); Community input

Building Bright Futures: Issues to Consider

- Minimal availability of goal related data led to little new information – but **confirmed what we perceived we already knew**
- Used **quantitative data** (census counts; indicator statistics; national comparison reports) to analyze needs and assets and **qualitative data** (community forums; workgroup comments) to support and validate our findings (e.g. PT shortage anecdotal vs. quantitative information)

Building Bright Futures: Serving a Purpose

- Confirmed need for a new system
- Highlighted the gaps clearly
- Identified many of the state's strengths
- Used to analyze and support staff's proposed strategic directions along with other data and information.

Building Bright Futures: Relationship to Regional Needs and Assets

- Provides a model for strengths based reporting
- Gives general idea of state gaps – compare to community findings
- Provides roadmap for opportunities for change